

**Desk Statement for Jason Galloway/ORC Report on Sampling Results of PFOA and
HFPO-DA in Ohio and West Virginia
and
History of EPA Actions to address PFOA and HFPO-DA in Drinking Water Supplies in the
Vicinity of the Chemours Washington Works Facility**

Background / History

- Since 2001, EPA Regions 3 and 5, and other entities have taken actions against DuPont, and more recently Chemours, requiring the companies to assess and address human exposure to PFOA in the vicinity of the Washington Works facility in Parkersburg, West Virginia where the manufacture of Teflon has taken place since the early 1950s. Sampling of ground water, surface water and public and private drinking water supplies was required under several initiatives.
- In a 2001 Consent Order with WVDEP, DuPont was required to sample ground water in the vicinity of three landfills and the Ohio River.
- A civil lawsuit settlement (Leach vs. DuPont) required DuPont to sample and treat numerous private drinking water supplies and public water supplies within six water supply districts in West Virginia and Ohio.
- In 2006, EPA Regions 3 and 5 issued a SDWA Order, requiring additional drinking water sampling in areas not specifically addressed under the civil lawsuit. The order recognized air dispersion was the primary mode of contaminant transport. Sampling was required around the plant and expanded in the direction of prevailing winds from southwest through the northeast as more detections were found in those directions.
- In response to EPA's 2009 provisional drinking water health advisory of 400 ppt, EPA Regions 3 and 5 issued a new Order to DuPont, requiring the expansion of drinking water sampling into new areas that could be at risk including to the northwest, north and northeasterly directions.
- In 2016, EPA issued a lifetime health advisory (HA) of 70 ppt. The 2009 SDWA Order was modified to reflect the new HA and sampling areas were expanded once again.
- As sampling data is received, sampling areas continue to expand. Overall, sampling currently encompasses an area close to 500 square miles in West Virginia and Ohio. Works facility.

Current Status / Water Supplies Addressed

- As a result of EPA's SDWA order, samples have collected from around 700 residential drinking water wells. Of these, over 400 were determined to be less than the HA (70 ppt) and did not require treatment. The remaining systems showed levels greater than the HA.
- To date, about 110 have been connected to a public water supply, 120 are being treated with granular activated carbon (GAC), 32 are receiving bottled water, and 27 have declined treatment or PWS connection.
- Residential water supplies receiving GAC are monitored quarterly to ensure proper PFOA removal.
- Numerous public water supplies were sampled: nine are being treated with GAC and being monitored monthly to ensure proper PFOA removal. A population of about 75,000 is being protected through these actions.

GenX Monitoring

- In late 2017, Regions 3 and 5 requested Chemours to begin adding GenX to their water supply sampling program.

- Since March 2018, Chemours has sampled 25 public and private water supplies in West Virginia and Ohio for HFPO-DA (GenX).
- Results from the first round of GenX sampling found 9 of 14 water supplies (2 public, 7 private) indicated the presence of GenX in the untreated (raw) water but treated water was non-detect for GenX. The GAC treatment was installed previously by DuPont/Chemours to remove PFOA. Since then, two of the private water supplies have been connected to a public supply.
- EPA requested that Chemours expand sampling in private wells further from the plant. An additional 9 wells were sampled (3 public water supply wells and 6 private wells) and none had GenX detected in their untreated water.
- Chemours continues quarterly sampling of the remaining seven water supplies with GenX detections in untreated water. EPA continues to evaluate the raw water concentrations to determine if there is an upward trend which would indicate a need for sampling further from the plant.

Findings

- EPA Regions 3 and 5 are confident that actions taken to date have protected the vast majority of the population exposed to endangering levels of PFOA and GenX through drinking water in the vicinity of the Chemours Washington Works facility.
- EPA continues to coordinate with Chemours to require the monitoring of new outlying areas where there may be water supplies which exceed the HA.

Research Underway

- EPA Regions 3, 5 and EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) are currently engaged in a research effort to more thoroughly understand contaminant transport of PFAS around the Washington Works facility. Sampling of the surface water, ground water and the soil will be undertaken. Samples will also be analyzed using nontargeted PFAS methods to more fully characterize the extent of PFAS types released from the facility.
- At the request of West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, ORD and EPA Region 3's Air Division provided technical and analytical support for testing PFAS in air emissions from the Chemours plant. This collaborative effort is assisting West Virginia in their investigations into the presence of PFAS in the environment near the Chemours facility.